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Letter dated 11 September 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to enclose herewith the letter of Rangin Dadfar Spanta, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you could arrange for the enclosed letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ravan **Farhadi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 11 September 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, I have the honour to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the role played by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), authorized under Security Council resolution 1386 (2001) of 20 December 2001 and subsequent resolutions, for the wider contribution that the United Nations is making towards security and stability in Afghanistan.

It is worth mentioning that considerable progress has been made in improving security throughout Afghanistan. The presidential election in 2004 and the parliamentary and provincial elections in 2005 were successfully conducted.

The International Security Assistance Force led by NATO since August 2003 has been crucial in improving security in Kabul, and through its programme of phased expansion in the north, west and south of the country, which is very important, has played a key role.

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan welcomes the prospect of the ISAF continuing to operate in Afghanistan until the security forces are fully able to provide security to our nation. The Government of Afghanistan is grateful to all those nations contributing resources to ISAF and to those nations that have assumed a leadership role.

I hope the Security Council will continue to reflect in its resolutions the paramount importance of fulfilling the ISAF mandate.

(Signed) Rangin Dadfar **Spanta**
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Islamic Republic of Afghanistan